

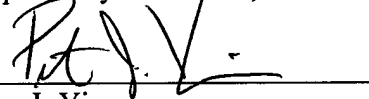
**REMARKS**

By this Preliminary Amendment, the specification has been amended to reflect that the present application is a National Stage of International Application No. 03/39698. Additionally, claims 1 and 58 have been amended. Claims 1-58 remain pending. Applicants respectfully request entry of this Preliminary Amendment and allowance of the pending claims.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 524322000300. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Dated: June 10, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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